

**In the Claims**

1. (currently amended) A shoe, comprising  
an outsole having a bottom surface for contacting the ground;  
said bottom surface having a notch adapted to receive a stitch and hinder premature wear of the stitch;  
a socklining adapted to directly receive a user's foot and having a peripheral edge on top of and in direct contact with said outsole;  
a cushion between said outsole and said socklining; and  
a securing mechanism extending from said socklining to said notch, without extending through said bottom surface, for securing said socklining directly to said outsole[.]; and  
said notch includes an outermost periphery of said outsole, an inner periphery smaller than said outermost periphery, a top surface of said notch extending generally perpendicular to and connecting said inner and outermost peripheries together, and a vertical wall extending in a generally downward direction proximate to said inner periphery and connecting said top surface of said notch to said bottom surface of said outsole, wherein said top surface of said notch is between said bottom surface of said outsole and a top surface of said outsole.
2. (original) The shoe according to claim 1, further comprising an upper in direct contact with said socklining.
3. (original) The shoe according to claim 2, said securing mechanism extends from said upper, through said socklining, and to said notch, without extending through said bottom surface, for securing said upper, said socklining, and said outsole together.